

MILLIONAIRE SENATOR-ELECT IS CHAMPION OF THE PLAIN PEOPLE; RHODE ISLAND PROUD OF P. G. GERRY

He Is First Democratic Senator Elected From the State Since 1853 — Takes Children of the Poor Out in His Yacht For Christmas Dinner Every Year.

(By M. E. Hennessy, in Boston Globe.)

It's a long stretch of time from 1853 to 1916, and it represents the gulf that separates the last Democratic United States Senator from Rhode Island from the present one, chosen at the last election.

Sixty-three years ago last May the Rhode Island legislature elected Philip Allen, the Democratic governor, to the United States Senate. Gov. Allen was a "tariff Democrat." Franklin Pierce of New Hampshire was President.

Last week was the first time that Rhode Island has had a chance to elect a United States Senator by a direct vote of the people, and the smallest state in the Union turned from the standpoint variety to the radical brand, electing Senator Henry F. Lippitt, Republican and electing Peter Goeliet Gerry, Democrat, by more than 7,000 plurality.

When Senator Gerry is introduced to the Senate, March 4 next, he will be one of the youngest men in the upper branch of Congress, if not the baby of the Senate. He was 37 years old last September.

He is eligible to membership in the Millionaire's Club of the Senate. He won't have to go house-hunting in Washington because he owns one of the most pretentious dwellings in the National capital, nor will Mrs. Gerry have to be introduced to Washington society. She has been one of the exclusive social set in Washington for several years.

She was a Miss Townsend before her marriage to Mr. Gerry and Washington was her home before she came to Rhode Island to live. Mr. and Mrs. Gerry have passed most of their winters at Washington since their marriage.

Harvard Man and Lawyer.

Senator Gerry is son of Commodore Gerry of New York, one of the old line Democrats of the Empire State, friend and supporter of Grover Cleveland and associate of Daniel Manning, Roswell P. Flower, William C. Whitney and most of the prominent Democrats and capitalists of industry and finance of the last generation.

The new Rhode Island Senator was born in New York city and was graduated with the degree of B. S. from the Lawrence Scientific school in the class of 1901. Subsequently he studied law and was admitted to the Rhode Island bar.

But Mr. Gerry does not have to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow and therefore does not have to worry about clients. If perchance a client should drop into the law firm of which he is a member looking for him to plead a case the chances are that he would be turned over to one of the working members.

In electing Gerry to succeed Senator Lippitt, Rhode Island men operatives have added another Harvard man to the United States Senate and have proven that there are different kinds of Harvard men politically.

Mr. Gerry will, in all probability, run with the Hollis Harvard Senatorial brand rather than with the Lodge or Penrose type.

For many years the Gerry family have lived at Newport the major part of the year. Senator-elect Gerry has always considered it his legal residence, having voted there since he was 21.

Champagne for the Soldiers.

Because the new Rhode Island Senator-elect is a member of the smart set of Newport and Washington and was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, one must not form the hasty opinion that he wears spats, sports a gold-headed cane, wears a top hat and a monocle when he appears on the street.

To be sure, he rides to hounds, plays golf, is an enthusiastic yachtsman, excels in tennis, belongs to all the fashionable clubs hereabouts and dines as well as any Englishman ever did, but he is one of the most democratic of men to be found on the streets of Providence, which he makes his business headquarters.

His democratic bearing is not assumed. He is naturally democratic in manner, approachable, sympathetic and charitable. It is his father who is one of the most democratic of men and one of the heaviest givers to charity in New York or Rhode Island.

When the troops came back to Montauk Point, at the close of the Spanish-American war, old Commodore Gerry ordered up the wine for the boys in khaki and for a week at the Rhode Island camp and the boys of Long and the army saluted "How" might be heard in almost every tent.

One of the army doctors said that a little champagne would be a good thing for the sick in the hospitals and the convalescents in the regimental camps, whereupon the Commodore shipped 600 cases of the bubbling stuff to Montauk Point. It was probably the largest round of drinks ever ordered by a man, and all the soldiers drank his health. Some of them claim that Gerry's champagne saved their lives.

Blind Boss Discovered Him.

The new Senator from this State knows the Congressional ropes, having served one term in the House of Representatives. He was elected to the 63d Congress from the second Rhode Island district, although he resided in the first district, of which Newport, his old home, is a part.

It happened in this way: The Republicans had nominated one of the most popular men in the State for Congress, Ex-Gov. E. W. Wilson. The district was heavily Republican. A few days before the election Utter died and the Republicans submitted Lieut. Gov. Zenas W. Bliss, whom the voters didn't warm up to because, they said, there was nothing to warm up to.

The Democratic nomination had gone a begging. Finally the leaders handed it to young Gerry. He won by a slim margin thanks to the 8,442 votes which the Progressive candidate received. Prior to that, Gerry had served in the city council of Newport.

There is a story around Providence

that the late Gen. Brayton, the blind boss of Rhode Island is the man who discovered young Gerry. Talking with a Providence newspaper man one day, Gen. Brayton observed: "There's another Democratic millionaire in Newport for you Democrats to cultivate. His name is Gerry, son of Commodore Gerry. Understand he wants to get into politics."

The reporter made inquiries, printed a story about Gerry and published a picture of him. The Democrats took him up and sent him to the city council. From that day on he has been a factor in Rhode Island politics.

Is a "Big Navy" Man.

Two years later Mr. Gerry was defeated for re-election. While in Congress he served on the Naval Committee. He most Representatives from coast States where the giant guns point toward the ocean, Mr. Gerry favors a big Navy and made two good speeches advocating a large increase in Uncle Sam's ships. He says he has not changed his opinion on that subject and hopes to serve on the Naval Committee in the Senate.

Mr. Gerry is interested in child welfare. He and Mrs. Gerry have given a lot of work for the poor children of Providence. He is an officer in the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

After his election to Congress Mr. Gerry purchased a large estate at Warwick Neck, not far from the home of the late Senator Aldrich, in order that it might not be said by his opponents that he didn't live in the district he represented. Here he spends eight or nine months of the year, opening his Washington house after Thanksgiving.

For a number of years it has been the practice of Mr. and Mrs. Gerry to give a Christmas dinner to the children of Providence. They engage Infantry Hall, one of the largest in the city, and pile the tables high with turkey and fixings. A huge Christmas tree, handsomely decorated, occupies the center of the stage, and is loaded down with toys for the youngsters.

Each boy and girl receives a pair of overshoes or mittens, every boy is given a toy of some kind, and to every little girl is presented a doll fully dressed in the height of fashion.

In the Summer the kiddies are marched aboard the Gerry yacht, which looks as big to them as an ocean liner. There's a good band to play the political march, "Yankee Doodle," "America," "Hot Time," etc., and when all are aboard the skipper heads for the bay. The good ship Owera steams about until sunset; when she heads back for the wharf, and the little ones are returned to their waiting parents, tired and sleepy, but not too tired or too sleepy to cheer for Mr. and Mrs. Gerry.

Not Politicians' Choice.

Of course, some cantankerous Republican will say that these things are political, and that the fact remains they have been doing this for years and that when the fathers of these youngsters went to the polls November 7, and the names of Lippitt, one of the biggest employers of child labor in the State, and Gerry, one of the biggest child laborers in Rhode Island, flared up before them on their ballots as candidates for United States Senator, they voted for Gerry.

The campaign for Senator was short and snappy. As one of Gerry's supporters put it: "Peter took all the snap out of Lippitt at the start and, actually ran him around him. After our candidate got a going, Lippitt didn't have a Chinaman's chance to win. We put Lippitt on the defensive all the time. Lippitt was obliged to keep both hands before his eyes in order to ward off the Gerry blows."

But the most interesting thing about the contest on the Democratic side is that when the Democrats nominated Gerry, few of them believed that he had a chance to win.

Rhode Island hasn't got to the new-fangled age in politics yet. They don't have the direct primary. The chances are that if they had Gerry would have been nominated, say some of the wise men of the party. Way back last spring, Gerry, it is said, had his eye on the Senatorship. He was willing to run for the political exercise he would get out of it, he remarked to some of his friends.

If the wise men of the party believed that there was a chance of defeating Lippitt it is said that Ex-Gov. Higgins would have taken the nomination. Indeed, it is said, that the Democratic harmony committee named months ago to parcel out the nominations held the matter in abeyance for a long time, hoping that Higgins would consent to be the party sacrifice.

Short and Snappy Campaign.

Congressman O'Shaunessy arose to remark during the summer that if the good people of Rhode Island and the Providence. Plantations wanted him to be their Senator, he would consent to run, but there were some members of the harmony committee who didn't propose to allow Hon. George Francis O'Shaunessy to wear the toga, and they saw to it that he was renominated for Congress.

Finally, after many weeks of delay, the Senatorial nomination was offered Peter went to it as he would go over a hurdle astride his best Kentucky jumper.

He has built up quite a personal political machine, and as soon as the law was cast he summoned his lieutenants to his home. "This was less than three weeks before election. There was no time to lose."

Gerry's chief of staff was George H. Smith, a young lawyer, who was his secretary while he was in Congress. Smith had been getting ready for the fight for some time known to the professional politicians, and when the nomination was assured Gerry he was ready for the contest.

Col. Patrick Henry Quinn, Democratic National Committee man, was right on the job from the start. So was Gerry's law partner, Thornley, and host of other enthusiastic friends.

On Oct. 17, Mr. Gerry accepted the nomination, declared for a navy which should "surpass all others," said that the tariff should be taken out of politics and stood firmly and squarely for President Wilson's policies.

Attacking Lippitt.

He raked Senator Lippitt's public

record fore and aft, charged him with being a standpatter and said that "the Democratic party must nominate for office men who show by their acts that they are responsive to the ever-broadening thought of the nation. I believe in a progressive Democratic party, conservative only in the expenditure of the people's money and the adequate protection of the people's rights."

"We must grow along the lines of broad humanity in legislation, non-political and unselfish. In that sense I am wholly a progressive. One essential in this program is publicity. It is the surest road to decency in Government and means an end to invisible power in Congress," he added, and concluded as follows:

"We cannot have National Integrity unless we have adequate National defense. I am eagerly for that quality of preparedness, which will maintain us at peace with all the world, but will, at all times, guarantee the safety of our people and our commerce against aggression of any foreign power."

"If the Democrats are maintained in power and their naval program for the next two years shall have been carried out, our Navy will have become second among the navies of the world, the rank it formerly had and the rank it lost during Republican Administration. I believe that eventually our Navy should surpass all others."

"It is no longer a disputed question that the rights of labor need the adequate protection of our laws, and that legislation which protect the workers, regulate the period of work, compensate for injuries and opens new channels for industry, in the end makes for the contentment and prosperity of all. My opponent's record shows that he has invariably failed to support legislation of this character."

Talked Day and Night.

Gerry talked day and night, at noon rallies outside the mill gates and at great industrial plants, telling them of Senator Lippitt's record. At his rallies he would say to the people:

"My opponent has shown by his votes in the United States Senate that he represents but one class of citizens. He voted to deprive you of the power of electing a United States Senator, yet now asks you when he is forced to do so, to elect him. As he believed you did not possess the intelligence to select a United States Senator, is it not reasonable to ask why should you express your confidence in his ability to represent you by returning him to office?"

"During this campaign I have repeatedly shown Mr. Lippitt's vote in the Senate were opposed to the average man, and yet he has failed to justify them. I believe the employer of labor should be protected, but I also believe the laboring man is entitled to his share of protection. The interests of both must be considered so that we may perpetuate the true American spirit upon which the foundation of our Government is based."

"Give me an opportunity to represent you and my votes in the United States Senate will be cast according to the dictates of my own conscience, for the purpose of giving a square deal to all the people, no matter what their station in life may be or to what party they belong."

Republicans began to realize that in Gerry Lippitt had an opponent who knew how to campaign and how to appeal to the sympathies, if not the prejudices of men. Republicans began to write or call on Gerry and say that they were with him.

Some of the shrewd Republican politicians told Senator Lippitt that he must do something to offset the work of Gerry, but Lippitt would not deviate from his dignified campaign plan.

Republican Papers Poked Fun.

As the campaign waxed warm and warmer the Republican papers poked fun at Gerry. One paper remarked that Gerry was conducting "one of his free-lunch band wagon - afternoon tea-banquets - perpetual glad-hand-campaigns," that he had been informed that he had addressed one gathering in his riding breeches and had promised the horny fisted sons of toil that when he went to Washington he would change the fashionable dinner hour from 8 p. m. to high noon, the hour he would be expected when most of them partook of their frugal meal. But this sort of ridicule only helped Gerry among those who knew him and those who saw and heard him on the stump.

While the fight was on Father Commodore Gerry's fighting blood arose and he sent word to New York that one of his light-horsemen to see what the youngster was up to, with instructions to be sure and carry the State for Pete.

Young Gerry had so much to talk about in the campaign that he found no difficulty in making a new speech every time he spoke. He pointed out what he had done, what Congress circulated every voter, marched in parades and rode about the State accompanied by Mrs. Gerry.

To Serve the Whole People.

"It's all over but the shouting," he announced to his friends the day before election. "Get out the vote and we'll win."

He didn't have to wait very late election night to learn of his election. His plurality was large and increased with every count. He had done what very few believed could be done.

Some stalwart Republicans are still grieving, but most of them take the situation philosophically and are adapting themselves to the new Senatorial order of things.

"I believe that my election means that the people of Rhode Island are at last freed from the domination of class rule," said Mr. Gerry, in reviewing his Senatorial campaign. "And that from now on we shall elect men to represent us at the State House and at Washington who will serve the whole people rather than a small, selfish minority."

"I like to think that Tuesday's election means the dawn of a new era for the average man in this State. I certainly shall do my part toward making the lot of the common man and woman better than it is."

"I appreciate the honor my fellow citizens have conferred upon me, and it shall be my earnest endeavor to represent the state in the Senate in a way that will meet with the hearty approval of the great majority of the people. I stand squarely for President Wilson and his policies. I shall deem it an honor to work with him for his legislative program."

"How does it feel to be a United States Senator? It feels pretty good. I like it."

"Yes, I think it is the right way to elect Senators. The people have a chance to say who they want, just as they said who they desired as President. I cannot say that I have any thought-out plan as Senator. I am a

One of These Three Men May Be Selected As British "Food Dictator"



Top to Bottom: WALTER RUNCIMAN, LORD DEVONPORT, LORD MILNER

Walter Runciman, president of the British board of trade, has advised that Great Britain appoint a "food dictator" with powers similar to those exercised by the German official. Three men have been suggested for the post—Runciman himself (at top in pictures), Lord Devonport, a Briton who made a huge success in retail trade before his advancement to the peerage (middle portrait), and Lord Milner, who won fame as an administrator in South Africa under the name Sir Alfred Milner (at bottom in pictures). Colonel Winston Churchill predicted in the house of commons that it would be necessary to adopt ration tickets for all essentials, and that prices would have to be fixed to secure to the poorest classes the power of buying a certain modicum of food. He said that he was quite sure national organization of agriculture was inevitable.

"We need a great organization," he concluded, "for producing millions of life just as we do for millions of death. Let the government do these things while there is yet time."

Democrat and I shall vote with my party unless I feel that I cannot do so conscientiously or that in following the party I would be injuring the people of my state."

Two Kinsmen Signers.

Elbridge Gerry of Marblehead, Mass., was a kinsman of the new Senator from Rhode Island, Elbridge. It will be remembered, is the man who put the Gerry into Gerryman. He also signed the Declaration of Independence, but he refused to append his signature to the Constitution, because he believed that it gave the President too much power. He was vice-President on the ticket with Madison.

Livingston, another signer of the Declaration of Independence from New York, was also a kinsman of Mr. Gerry. Like her husband, Mrs. Gerry is a lover of outdoor life. Although a very rich woman in her own right, Mrs. Gerry is most democratic in manner, and says that the only aristocracy she recognizes is the aristocracy of common sense. She ranks as one of the best horsewomen in the country.

Mrs. Gerry was Mathilde Townsend of Philadelphia, one of the two heirs to the great fortune left by her uncle, William L. Scott of Erie, Penn. She was carefully educated, and believes that society women ought to go into politics.

Rich Men in Politics.

The Senator-elect says that rich men's sons ought to go into politics instead of devoting all their time to sports and social affairs.

"Politics is in my blood, I guess," he laughingly observed in his talk. "You see, we have had a number of politicians in our family, beginning back in the Revolutionary days. The Gerrys and the Livingstons, from whom I am descended, were prominent in the launching and upbuilding of the republic, and it is only natural that I should be interested in public affairs."

"I feel that the greatest hope for this country is in the Democratic party. It is the party of all the people, rich and poor, old and young. Educated and uneducated can find a haven in the Democratic party."

"It is the only party that has withstood the ravages of time, and it will last as long as the Republic, and that will live forever, I hope."

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He is the Beau Brummel of the North American hawks, among which he is conceded to be the handsomest as well as the smallest. He's the sparrow hawk and breeds throughout the United States, Canada and northern Mexico.

He stands around on telegraph poles disporting a salt and pepper vest, with a red and black long tailed coat, and all the other hawks are envious of his appearance and smart torgery.

Few birds eat such a variety of food as the sparrow hawk, who is the true American falcon. Grasshoppers, crickets, terrestrial beetles and caterpillars make up more than half his subsistence, while field mice, house mice and shrews cover 25 per cent of his annual supply. The balance of the food includes birds, reptiles and spiders.

In agricultural districts where new ground is being broken the sparrow hawk becomes quite tame, even alighting for a moment under the horses in his effort to seize a worm or an insect.—Philadelphia North American.

Bluecher in the Hospital.

At the time of the Seven Years' war there was very little knowledge of surgery, and the surgeons were often no more than barbers, inexperienced and uneducated. They were commonly known as the "Company of Pain," a name that fitted them admirably. Lieutenant Bluecher, afterward the famous field marshal, says Tageliche Rundschau, was wounded in the foot by a musket ball. At the hospital to which he was carried several surgeons began to probe the wound and out pro-

miscuously in its vicinity. Then Bluecher inquired, in spite of the pain "What sort of tailoring are you trying to do? The wound is large enough already, I should think."

"We're looking for the bullet," answered one of the offended surgeons. "Oh, oh!" cried Bluecher angrily. "Why didn't you tell me that before? I have it in my pocket." And with that he drew from his pocket the bullet, which he had extracted from the wound himself.

When Greek Meets Greek.

The middle aged American who was having his shoes polished looked down at the busy Greek lad who was bent on turning out a good job.

"Well, young man," he said, rather patronizingly, "I suppose you are learning to speak good English. By the bye, how long have you been in this country?"

"Bout one year, meester," was the prompt reply. "You live here some time, I guess?"

"Oh," answered the other vaguely, with a mysterious smile, "I've been here over a year."

The young Greek regarded his customer with suspicion for a moment and then, appearing to understand that he was being quizzed, said swiftly, with a dazzling smile: "Well, meester, I give you complimen'. You speak very good language for so short while!"—New York Post.

Song Writers and the Bowery.

The Bowery in New York has produced some of the greatest American song makers. It was among the old Bowery haunts that Stephen C. Foster

found the inspiration for "My Old Kentucky Home," "Daring Nellie Gray," "Massa's In de Cold, Cold Ground," "The Old Folks at Home" and "Gentle Annie." And down the old Bowery Howard and Charles Graham often wandered while humming to themselves the initial strains of such songs as "My Dad's the Engineer," "A Picture That Is Turned Towards the Wall" and "Two Little Girls in Blue." But Foster and the Graham brothers, however, saw few of the golden nuggets that now gladden the hearts and eyes of song writers.—American Magazine.

Usually the Way.

Bagshaw—I might have told him that if my reputation was as bad as his I'd be glad to lose it.

His wife—I'm glad you didn't prolong the argument. You showed great self control in not doing so.

Bagshaw—It wasn't self control. I didn't think of it till after I got home.—London Telegraph.

There Are Some.

"I just adore western men," gushed the girl who had never been west of Hoboken. "You are all so big and bluff and hearty."

"Well, when it comes to that," replied the westerner, "I've seen some pretty big bluffs right here in New York city."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Showing Himself.

"Jack must be out of debt."

"Why?"

"He's walking down the main street again."—Michigan Gargoyla.